

PASSAIC COUNTY, NJ

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

FY 2021

Department of Planning and Economic Development
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Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

Passaic County receives funding annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Department of Planning and Economic Development is the County's designated department responsible for the federal grant program. One of the requirements for receiving these funds is the development of a five-year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (CP) to provide policy direction for the next five years of funding decisions. In general, the CP is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to a community's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing.
- To provide a suitable living environment through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of low- and moderate- income residents throughout the cities, increased housing opportunities and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability and the empowerment of low- and moderate-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

The County prepared a new Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2018-2022. This plan is the basis for the allocation of priorities and actions for FY 2021. The federal funding resource for implementation of the plan is the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The main objective of this program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate-income levels. Funds can be used for a wide array of activities, including: rehabilitation of public facilities and infrastructure, removal of architectural barriers, public services, rehabilitation of housing, commercial or industrial buildings and loans or grants to businesses.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

In 2018, the County prepared a five-year plan for the fiscal years 2018 to 2022. This is the second annual plan that will implement the goals and objectives outlined in that plan.

Goal Name	Description
Affordable Housing	Creation/preservation of affordable housing including housing rehabilitation assistance and preservation/expansion of homeless facilities.
Public Facility Improvements	Improvements to public facilities that serve low- and moderate-income clientele and/or are located in low- and moderate-income areas and demolition of vacant structures that pose a risk to the health and safety of residents in any area of the community.
Infrastructure Improvements	Improvements to public infrastructure that serve low- and moderate-income residents and/or are located in low- and moderate-income areas.
Public Services	Provision of public services to low- and moderate-income clientele.
Homelessness	Support the efforts of the PCICH to reduce the incidence of homelessness and reduce the length of time persons experience homelessness.
Planning and Administration	Administration and planning conducted to operate the CDBG program successfully.

During FY 2021, the County will use CDBG funds for activities in support of the goals for public facilities, infrastructure, public services and planning and administration.

3. Evaluation of past performance

Passaic County is currently administering the FY 2020 grant program. The current program year runs from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021. The Comprehensive Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for this year will be available for public review during December, 2021. The last CAPER, for FY 2019, covered the period through from September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020.

During FY 2019, Passaic County received \$860,233 and funded nine municipal and two public service projects. One substantial amendment was undertaken to cancel a FY 2015 project in West Milford and apply the funds to the CDBG FY 2018 elevator project in the recreation center.

During FY 2020, Passaic County received \$914,302 and funded seven municipal projects and two public service projects. Additionally, Passaic County received \$637,434 in CDBG-CV1 funds from the CARES Act to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the spread of COVID-19. Funded activities include disinfecting services, distribution of personal protective equipment, meal delivery services, and a study to gather data and develop an emergency response plan to COVID-19. The \$881,057 from CDBG-CV3 will be used for wrap-around services related to the Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Such services include a Housing Navigator, Case Management and legal services as well as utility payments to prevent evictions.

The County has not been meeting the timeliness standard of no more than 1.5 times its annual allocation at the end of the 10th month of the program year. However, the timeliness standard was met by the end of the program year for 2020. Many projects were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and construction crews could not work safely. In some instances, members of the construction crews were infected and all work stopped. Municipal projects are often not ready to implement in the first year after funding. The County is assessing project readiness more closely at the time funding decision are being made.

The County's Continuum of Care (Paterson/Passaic County CoC) utilizes McKinney-Vento funds from HUD to support permanent supportive housing, the Homeless Management Information System and a Rapid Re-housing program. The CoC received \$4,782,948 in funding for twelve projects in FY2020.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The Passaic County CDBG program includes outreach to municipalities and organizations as described in full in the Annual Plan. Such outreach included:

1. Informing the municipalities and organizations of the availability of funds, application deadline, and first public hearing date. The County sends letters to every municipality in the Urban County as well as approximately 30 agencies and the CoC to provide an opportunity for participation. Letters and emails were sent out in early December 2020.
2. The first public meeting was held virtually on February 12, 2021. The hearing was advertised in two local newspapers and a blast email reminded interested parties of the hearing. Thirty-five individuals representing municipalities and service organizations attended the public hearing.
3. The CDBG FY 2021 Action Plan was disseminated by email to all the participating jurisdictions, HUD entitlements within Passaic County (Clifton, Passaic, Paterson, and Wayne), and organizations that represent low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency. The second public hearing announcement was included in this communication. This mailing included distribution to:
 - Passaic County Department of Human Services
 - Passaic County Interagency Council on Homelessness
 - Catholic Family and Community Services, 24 DeGrasse Street, Paterson, NJ 07505
 - NewBridge Services, 105 Hamburg Turnpike, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442
 - Home Care Options, 783 Riverview Dr. Box 287 Totowa NJ 07511-0287
 - CASA
 - The Twelve (12) Participating municipalities in the Urban County were also notified and a request was made to post the public notice announcing the availability of the CDBG FY 2021 Action Plan and to post the public notice on their web sites.

The second public hearing announcement was included in this communication. The Action Plan was also placed on the Passaic County website. Notice of the availability of the plan was also sent to surrounding counties.

4. A second **virtual** hearing was held on June 15, 2021 at 12:00 pm. The hearing was advertised with the availability of the Action Plan for display and disseminated through agencies that have contact with low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency.

5. Summary of public comments

TBD

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

TBD

7. Summary

Materials from the County's public outreach efforts are included in the "Public Outreach" attachment.

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The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	Passaic Co. NJ	Department of Planning and Economic Development
CDBG Administrator	Passaic Co. NJ	Department of Planning and Economic Development, Division of Economic Development

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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

1. Introduction

The following information provides an overview of Passaic County's efforts to consult with relevant agencies during the development of this Annual Action Plan.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(l))

Passaic County provides an array of services to special needs and low-income persons across a variety of departments. This includes services to the elderly, persons with mental health, developmental disabilities and the homeless. The Passaic County Housing Agency is the public housing agency providing Section 8 vouchers that subsidize housing for low-income persons. CDBG funds provide support to public service agencies that serve the elderly (Homecare Options) and advocacy services to abused youth living in foster care (CASA).

Passaic County is also the lead agency for the Continuum of Care, an umbrella organization with approximately 30 member agencies that provide a plethora of services to persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The Continuum of Care (CoC) links to all mental health, homeless, services and health organizations.

Through the county's various departments, funds are distributed to many for-profit and not-for-profit agencies that provide direct services including housing to special needs populations. Bi-annual planning for human services funds is undertaken to coordinate the efforts of these many organizations to find housing solutions for those difficult to house.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The Passaic County Department of Human Services facilitates the CoC process and was consulted on several occasions for input on the Five-Year plan and FY 2020 Annual Plan. The FY 2018 CoC application and comments from stakeholders in the CoC were referenced extensively throughout the 2018-2022 Consolidated Plan. The Director of Economic Development sits on the Board of the CoC

and regularly participates in discussions related to the CoC funding. The CoC meets quarterly and is active through committees during the intervening months. The committees span the topics of Centralized Intake and coordination of services, review of

priority populations for permanent supportive housing, and discussions with health care and other systems of care about discharge policies.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

Passaic County does not receive ESG funds.

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2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations

Agencies that were directly consulted during the Five-Year Consolidated Plan process were provided an opportunity to comment during the FY 2021 Annual Plan process. Many more received initial invitations to participate in the process and/or attended CoC meetings during which the Consolidated Plan goals and objectives were discussed.

Agencies and groups that participated in the preparation of the goals and objectives and received an invitation to participate in the 2021 Annual Plan process are listed below.

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic County Department of Human Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Through interviews with members of the Department of Human Services and attendance at the CoC meeting, information was obtained on homeless services, the special needs population and services provided by Passaic County. Opportunities to coordinate and utilize CDBG funding were discussed. Many discussions took place around the use of COVID funds to ensure that the unmet needs were being identified and addressed.

2	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic Department of Engineering
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Discussion with Department staff as to projects that address needs within areas of low-income concentration and persons with disabilities. Also discussed any projects to address flooding or other disaster preparedness. CDBG funds are being used to fund county road barrier removal projects.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic County Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Passaic County Housing Agency was consulted by email and phone to update information on self-sufficiency, unit counts and COVID needs of residents. The PCHA is a part of County government and is consulted regularly about its needs.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	PROSPECT PARK
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	A focus group was held with municipal partners in the Urban County to discuss their long-term needs, the housing needs and opportunities in their communities and service needs of their residents.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Hawthorne Public Schools
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Asian American Association for Human Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Bangladeshi American Women’s Development Initiative
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Circassian Repatriation Organization
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Consulado General del Peru en Paterson
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Foreign consulate
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Council on Islamic Relations New Jersey
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	IACO, Immigration and American Citizenship Organization
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.

12	Agency/Group/Organization	Indo-American Seniors Association of Clifton
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	I-Say Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Italian American Family Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Co-operative organization Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Latino Service Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	MANAVI, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Mi Casa Es Puebla
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	North Jersey Elks Developmental Disabilities Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Sons of Italy
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Fraternal organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Palestinian American Community Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Polish American Congress, Northern New Jersey
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Sakhi for South Asian Women
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.

23	Agency/Group/Organization	San Giuseppe Santa Croce Camerina Society
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Turkish Cultural Center New Jersey
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Ukrainian Cultural Center of Clifton
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children of Passaic County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Education Services - Victims

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Center for Family Resources
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
29	Agency/Group/Organization	CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION IN NJ
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	4Cs of Passaic County, Inc
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Fair Housing Council of Northern New Jersey
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
32	Agency/Group/Organization	Home Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.

33	Agency/Group/Organization	Northeast NJ Legal Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Legal Services for low-income populations
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
34	Agency/Group/Organization	New Jersey Community Development Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
35	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic County Department Of Senior Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
36	Agency/Group/Organization	STRENGTHEN OUR SISTERS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.
37	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of Passaic Co.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with to discuss arising community needs, including issues resulting from COVID-19.

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

All agency types were consulted.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (2015)	Passaic County Dept. of Planning and Economic Development	Strategic Plan goals align with the goals in the CEDS as funding allows, without duplication of activities.
Hazard Mitigation Plan (2015)	Passaic County Office of Emergency Management	Strategic Plan goals align with the goals in the Hazard Mitigation Plan as funding allows, without duplication of activities.
CoC Annual Application to HUD	Passaic County Department of Human Services	Annual goals and achievements of the CoC which align with the County's Five Year Plan.

Narrative (optional)

In addition to the agencies and plans consulted with for the development of the Annual Action Plan, Passaic County completed a study with V-COMM to assess broadband needs by assessing current building infrastructure and wireless network capabilities to install a high-speed 5G network in residential, commercial and industrial areas of Passaic and Paterson. This needs assessment is funded through a grant from the 2019 Innovative Challenge Program developed by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority. Additionally, an economic development study conducted by the New Jersey Highlands Council is strongly considering the installation of a 5G network in the region to encourage economic growth by facilitating the rising trend of working from home.

Several school districts, such as Hawthorne Public Schools, and nonprofits purchased hotspots for students who did not have Internet access and provided devices to any students that requested one.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation

The Passaic County CDBG program includes outreach to municipalities and organizations as described in full in the Annual Plan. Such outreach included:

1. Informing the municipalities and organizations of the availability of funds, application deadline, and first public hearing date. Letters and emails were sent out in December 2019.
2. The first public meeting was held on February 12, 2021. The hearing was advertised in two local newspapers; was included in the cover letter of the CDBG FY 2021 application; and a blast email reminded interested parties of the hearing.
3. The Hearing notices were disseminated in Spanish as well as English. The blast email requested that agencies share this information with their constituents. The County website also contains program information and can be translated easily.
4. The Action Plan was disseminated by email to all of the participating jurisdictions as well as organizations that represent low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency. The second public hearing announcement was included in this communication.
5. A second hearing was held on June 15, 2021 at 12:00 pm virtually. The hearing was advertised in two local newspapers, with the availability of the Action Plan for display and disseminated through agencies that have contact with low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency.

Outreach, particularly to municipalities, establishes the local priorities for funding. Each municipality that submits an eligible CDBG project application is considered for funding.

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Notice and email	General Public	35 people attended the 1 st Public Needs Hearing	No comments were received.	None	N/A
2	Newspaper Public Notices	General Public	The newspaper ads public notices were used to inform the public of the first and second public hearings as well as the availability of the plan.	N/A	None	N/A
3	Public Hearing	General Public	Virtual 2 nd Public Hearing - XX people in attendance	TBD	None	N/A
4.	Letters /Emails	Municipalities and Agencies	Sent to inform entities of process	TBD	None	N/A

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c) (1, 2)

Introduction

The County became an entitlement community as an Urban County for the receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 2008. The County is allocated a CDBG grant each fiscal year. In FY 2021, the amount allocated by HUD to Passaic County is \$878,453. The Borough of Ringwood has rejoined the Urban County for FY 2021-2023.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Federal	Infrastructure improvement, public facility improvements, housing rehabilitation, public services and administration	\$891,398	0	0	\$720,694	Block grant from HUD to address housing, community development and economic development needs in Passaic County.	

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

Each municipality will leverage the CDBG funds with community funds to provide engineering services for their projects. The County does not pay for engineering. In addition, the total project costs will require that some of the municipalities bond for the remainder of the funds needed to complete the project budget. In addition, some municipalities may have secured state grants to apply toward construction costs. However, there are no matching fund requirements for CDBG funding.

The projects that improve public facilities and infrastructure also leverage the existing assets of each community such as waterlines, sewer lines, streets, sidewalks, and the public library in Pompton Lakes.

The Passaic County Public Housing Agency expects to receive ongoing Section 8 Rental Assistance Funding from HUD to continue to provide 835 vouchers to low-income renters in Passaic County, outside of the entitlement cities.

Passaic County administers the Continuum of Care (CoC) program serving all homeless persons in the County. The CoC expects to apply for funding under the 2021 CoC program later this summer.

The County has a Homeless Trust Fund that is generating support for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities.

The County may seek funding from other sources to accomplish its goals. Such funding may include:

- McKinney – Vento Funds under the HEARTH Act
- CDBG Disaster Recovery
- CDBG-CV
- CARES Act
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credits
- New Markets Tax Credits
- Economic Development Initiative
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs

State funds may also be sought:

- NJHMFA Special Needs Housing Fund
- HOME funds provided through NJDCA
- Weatherization Assistance Program

- Office of Mental Health
- Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services
- Department of Health
- Department of Welfare (Supportive Services for the Homeless)
- Work First New Jersey
- Department of Transportation

The County is not aware of any Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects to be undertaken. However, should the occasion arise, the County would support a LIHTC application with a Certification of Consistency.

If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

The County is exploring the feasibility of utilizing a county-owned site for affordable housing for elderly and veterans. This project would not involve CDBG funds however.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Facility Improvements	2018	2022	Non-Housing Community Development	Urban County	Public Facility Improvements		Public Facility or Infrastructure other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5,564 persons
2	Infrastructure Improvements	2018	2022	Non-Housing Community Development	Urban County	Infrastructure Improvements		Public Facility or Infrastructure other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 11,030 persons
3	Public Services	2018	2022	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	Urban County	Public Services		Public Service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 persons
4	Administration	2018	2022	Other	Urban County	Administration		Other: 1 other

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

Goal	Description
Public Facility Improvements	Improvements to public facilities that serve low- and moderate-income clientele and/or are located in low- and moderate-income areas. Two facilities to be improved benefiting 32,963 people
Infrastructure Improvements	Improvements to public infrastructure that serve low- and moderate-income residents and/or are located in low- and moderate-income areas. 10,108 Persons Assisted
Public Services	Provision of public services to low- and moderate-income clientele. 100 Persons Assisted
Planning and Administration	Administration and planning conducted to operate the CDBG program successfully.

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

Passaic County does not receive HOME funds and does not plan to undertake any housing activities in FY 2021.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The following project information for FY 2021 provides a comprehensive overview on the planned CDBG activities.

#	Project Name
1	Administration
2	Borough of Bloomingdale - Senior Center Pavilion
3	Borough of Hawthorne - Rehabilitation of North 9th Street
4	Township of Little Falls - Stinson Place Rehabilitation
5	Borough of Pompton Lakes - ADA Curb Ramps and Paving Project
6	Borough of Prospect Park - Planten Avenue Improvement Project
7	Borough of Totowa - Sanitary Sewer Lining Project XI: Lincoln Avenue
8	Township of West Milford - Township Building No. 2- Installation of Barrier Free Ramp
9	Borough of Woodland Park - Newby Avenue Reconstruction between W. 36th Street and McBride
10	Macopin Volunteer Fire Company - Rehabilitation of bathrooms for ADA accessibility
11	Passaic County - ADA Ramp installation
12	County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
13	Home Care Options

Table 8 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

The allocations were selected based on eligibility of the activity, its ability to meet a national objective, and the evidence of need in the community. Further consideration was given to the past history of expenditure of CDBG funds by the community and whether the FY 2021 request was related to previously funded projects. The ability of the community to complete projects in a timely manner was given a high priority.

Passaic County allocated its entitlement funds to provide assistance to activities that meet the underserved needs of the communities participating in the program.

Obstacles identified in the Five Year Plan included:

- Increasing costs to complete projects;
- Fragmented approach to local planning and lack of coordination in addressing infrastructure needs; and
- Limited inter-municipality communication in addressing public facility needs.

In the Five-Year CP, obstacles such as a lack of funding, NIMBYism, a lack of affordable housing, limited infrastructure in the community, Highlands development restrictions, and escalating costs to provide housing were cited as obstacles to providing affordable housing.

The County will continue to provide resources to assist homeless and low-income persons obtain housing. These programs may not necessarily involve CDBG funding.

The County Housing Agency provides rent vouchers to offset the high cost of rental housing in the County.

The Passaic County Human Services Department offers several programs to combat homelessness and is the administrator of H.O.P.E. in Passaic County, the County's plan to end chronic homelessness.

DRAFT

AP-38 Projects Summary

Table 9 – Project Summary

1	Project Name	Administration
	Target Area	Urban County
	Goals Supported	Planning and Administration
	Needs Addressed	Administration
	Funding	CDBG: \$175,691
	Description	Ongoing program management and public information
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	n/a
	Location Description	Urban County
	Planned Activities	Administration
2	Project Name	Borough of Bloomingdale - Senior Center Pavilion
	Target Area	Urban County
	Goals Supported	Facility Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Facility Improvements

Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
Description	Construction of an ADA-accessible, open pavilion at an existing senior center.
Target Date	8/31/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	693 people. Census Tract 1165, Block Group 3
Location Description	103 Hamburg Turnpike, Bloomingdale, NJ
Planned Activities	Construct a 20' by 30' open pavilion and an ADA accessible pathway from the existing Senior Center and Flower garden in order to provide a safe location for seniors to meet and socialize during and after the pandemic, ensuring safe social distancing. Project will be completed in 7 months. Budget includes non-portable picnic tables, outdoor furniture, and shed replacement
Project Name	Borough of Hawthorne - Rehabilitation of North 9th Street
Target Area	Urban County
Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
Needs Addressed	Infrastructure Improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$90,000
Description	Milling and paving of North 9th Street from Prescott to Westervelt. Replace curbs, as needed, retrofit of all catch basins and install ADA curb ramps as needed.

	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,391 people. Census Tract 2036, Block Group 5
	Location Description	North 9th Street, Hawthorne, NJ
	Planned Activities	Street improvements.
4	Project Name	Township of Little Falls - Stinson Place Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Urban County
	Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$90,000
	Description	Stinson Place is impacted by erosion, potholes, and cracked pavement. Proposed work: repave the road; improve existing drainage infrastructure; reset parking signs; paint a new crosswalk and build a new curb. Tree removal and replacement; reset two existing manhole covers and grates. There are no sidewalks in the area. The street intersects Main Avenue.
	Target Date	8/31/2022

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,488 people. Census Tract 1540.02, Block Group 1
	Location Description	Stinson Place, Little Falls, NJ between Main Avenue and Woodcliff Avenue. Located in Signac neighborhood.
	Planned Activities	Street improvements.
5	Project Name	Borough of Pompton Lakes - ADA Curb Ramps and Paving Project
	Target Area	Urban County
	Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Installation of ADA compliant curb ramps and detectable warning surfaces including minor sidewalk improvements to ensure safe and equal access for all residents. Anticipate installation of 12 ADA curb ramps.
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,799 people. Census Tract 1964.02, Block Group 1

Location Description	Howard Street and Dupont Place; Howard Street and Maple Street; Howard Street and Babbitt Place; Poplar Street and Babbitt Place; Poplar Street and Maple Street; Walnut Street and Poplar Street and in the Cul de Sac of Howard Street
Planned Activities	Handicap barrier removal.
Project Name	Borough of Prospect Park - Planten Avenue Improvement Project
Target Area	Urban County
Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
Needs Addressed	Infrastructure Improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$85,000
6	Description Milling and paving of 0.11 miles of roadway, including pedestrian safety features, striping and regulatory signage. Including replacement of concrete curbs; concrete sidewalks and concrete driveway aprons. Installation of 9 ADA compliant detectable warning surfaces. Repairs/adjustments to manhole castings, water valve boxes, inlets and adjacent grass areas, as needed.
Target Date	8/31/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,166 people. Census Tract 2036, Block Group 4.
Location Description	Planten Avenue between N. 6th Street to North 8th Street.

	Planned Activities	Street improvements.
	Project Name	Borough of Totowa - Sanitary Sewer Lining Project XI: Lincoln Avenue
	Target Area	Urban County
	Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,762
7	Description	Installation of cured-in-place pipe liner and sealing of manholes, along the length of the sanitary sewer line to be rehabilitated. Seal sanitary sewer lateral connections at the main, and rehab of sanitary manholes within the project limits. 70+ year old clay pipes, brick manholes.
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,848 people. Census Tract 2238.01, Block Groups 1 and 2
	Location Description	Lincoln Place from Franklin Place to Union Boulevard
	Planned Activities	Waterline improvements.
8	Project Name	Township of West Milford - Township Building No. 2- Installation of Barrier Free Ramp
	Target Area	Urban County

Goals Supported	Facility Improvements
Needs Addressed	Facility Improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
Description	This building is currently under design for renovations to be utilized as an office for multiple Township agencies which will generate visits from the public. Renovations include compliance with ADA; energy efficient improvements; and a floor plan layout to enable social distancing.
Target Date	8/31/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2,942 People. Census Tract 2568.03, Block group 2
Location Description	649 Ridge Road, West Milford, NJ
Planned Activities	Rehabilitation of public building to meet accessibility requirements
Project Name	Borough of Woodland Park – Street improvements
Target Area	Urban County
Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
Needs Addressed	Infrastructure Improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$80,000

Description	Replacement of deteriorated curbing and replacement of deteriorated concrete sidewalk with a concrete sidewalk including a new curb ramp.
Target Date	8/31/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2,193 People. Census Tract 2641.01, Block group 1
Location Description	Newby Avenue between W. 36th Street and McBride Avenue
Planned Activities	Handicap barrier removal.
Project Name	Macopin Volunteer Fire Company - Rehabilitation of bathrooms for ADA accessibility
Target Area	Urban County
Goals Supported	Facility Improvements
Needs Addressed	Facility Improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$35,000
Description	Reconstruct existing 2 bathrooms to accommodate ADA compliance. Site is utilized as an Emergency Shelter as well as a voting site.
Target Date	8/31/2022

Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,929 People. Census Tract 2568.04, Block group 2
Location Description	1362 Macopin Road, West Milford
Planned Activities	Handicap barrier removal.
Project Name	Passaic County - ADA Ramp installation
Target Area	Urban County
Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
Needs Addressed	Infrastructure Improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$29,945
Description	Installation of 8-10 ADA compliant ramps
Target Date	8/31/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,145 people
Location Description	North Haledon Avenue, between Squawbrook Road and Linda Vista Drive, in North Haledon
Planned Activities	Handicap barrier removal.

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12	Project Name	County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
	Target Area	Urban County
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Funds requested will be used to hire an advocacy supervisor who will ensure that the work is done correctly, efficiently, in a timely fashion, and in accordance with the CASA volunteer policies and procedures. Additionally, the Advocacy Supervisor will provide the community with educational outreach around issues of child abuse prevention, mandatory reporting, and individual advocacy.
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 10 children will be assisted.
	Location Description	12 CDBG municipalities at client homes, schools and places of services. Headquarter: 415 Hamburg Turnpike, Wayne, NJ
Planned Activities	Public Service	
13	Project Name	Home Care Options
	Target Area	Urban County

Goals Supported	Public Services
Needs Addressed	Public Services
Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
Description	The Volunteer Shopper Plus Program provides in home assessments of the senior to determine needs and admit the client to the Volunteer Shopper Plus Program. The Social Worker will identify the other services and in-home support that the client may need and is eligible for and makes the connections to those services. Provides services to individuals over the age of 60.
Target Date	8/31/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 90 households will benefit.
Location Description	12 CDBG municipalities.
Planned Activities	Public Service.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The areas of Passaic County that have a concentration of Non-White and Latino populations are limited but have increased since 2000. Census Block Groups in Haledon, Prospect Park, Wanaque, Pompton Lakes, and Woodland Park have higher concentrations of Non-White and Latino households in addition to concentrations of low- and moderate-income people. Projects were identified in Prospect Park, Pompton Lakes, and Woodland Park.

There were no target areas identified. The County funds projects based on demonstrated need for each activity.

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Assistance is not directed to any specific geographic area in the County.

Area benefit projects in FY 2021 will take place in areas of low- and moderate-income concentration throughout the County.

All the CDBG funding (100%) will benefit LMI clientele either through area benefit or as presumed benefit populations throughout the County.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The County does not receive HOME funds and CDBG funding is limited. Housing projects are not planned for FY2021. The CoC anticipates receiving new housing first vouchers as part of their application to HUD.

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement
One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported

Homeless	10
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
Total	10

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type
One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through:

Rental Assistance	10
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	10

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Passaic County Housing Agency does not own or manage public housing in Passaic County. The Passaic County Housing Agency administers Section 8 vouchers only.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

N/A – There is no public housing in the Urban County.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

Passaic County Housing Agency has a family self-sufficiency program, including job training, development of employment skills, educational activities, and savings accounts for the development of economic self-sufficiency. This program serves approximately 80 families annually from a total of 835 Housing Agency Section 8 families.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

N/A – Not a troubled agency.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The Passaic County Continuum of Care (CoC) is supported by the staff of the Department of Human Services and administered by the Passaic County Interagency Council on Homelessness. The Passaic County Consolidated Plan relies on the work of the CoC to set policy and implement programs to prevent homelessness and assist persons who are homeless.

Describe the jurisdictions' one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including:

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The CoC plans and manages the homeless system's coordination through an ongoing collaboration of public and non-profit agencies, grantors, advocacy groups and formerly homeless individuals. The CoC has provided grant funding to NJ 2-1-1 to be the single point of entry for the coordinated assessment process. NJ-211 is the virtual Coordinated Assessment access point accessible to the community via telephone availability 24 hours a day 7 days a week. NJ211 strives to make materials and phone conversations accessible to persons with limited English proficiency through translation. NJ 2-1-1 is a key partner in conducting point of entry referrals into shelters, permanent housing, and services.

The CoC's Coordinated Assessment system covers the entire Passaic County geographic area through strategic outreach from PATH and SSVF partners. Strategic outreach covers the CoC's geography annually, but also proactively outreaches to the hardest to serve individuals who are not actively seeking services, and who are identified or staying in known locations. The PATH Program provides regular outreach at known locations. Further, through partnership with the eviction courts, PATH has addressed the needs of those at-risk of losing their housing. When families are removed from the welfare list, outreach is conducted to see if they have short-term places to live and long-term plans for permanent housing. Additional street outreach is conducted by "They Have A Name" to encourage people to move to shelter and services. The SSVF and Community Hope coordinate street outreach to homeless veterans.

As part of the coordinated system, the CoC has created a Housing Prioritization Tool (HPT) to assist the most vulnerable households in the Coordinated Assessment system. Using the tool ensures that people with the greatest needs will be prioritized when housing providers are seeking referrals for permanent supportive housing and rapid re-

housing placements. The CoC tracks the length of time clients remain on the list and where clients are discharged to, ensuring the effectiveness of the CoC and the prioritization process. The CoC can monitor bed availability in real-time for housing projects using Homeless Management Information System.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Shelter and transitional housing providers are moving toward rapid re-housing, housing first and limiting stays prior to permanent housing entry. Funds were reallocated from PSH programs to fund rapid re-housing through the CoC. The Passaic County Homeless Trust Fund has also funded rapid re-housing and services in support of rapid re-housing projects. The State DCA funded 500 state-wide rental assistance vouchers for chronically homeless to be matched by services provided by local agencies. NJCDC is administering 50 vouchers and matching with services funded from the County's Homeless Trust Fund. The CoC is working to shorten the length of time persons are homeless. To this end, transitional housing is being phased out and more rapid-rehousing and permanent supportive housing created. The Hispanic Center Transitional Housing was restructured as a homeless shelter.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

Coordinated referral and an extensive inventory of services provide an opportunity for persons who are homeless to make a successful transition to permanent housing. The CoC Priorities are: (1) ending chronic and veteran homelessness, (2) creating new low-barrier housing first-oriented permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing projects, and (3) creating a systemic response to homelessness through coordinated entry and assessment.

- To end chronic homelessness, the CoC is utilizing a Housing Prioritization Tool to prioritize chronically homeless persons for permanent housing opportunities systematically and is supporting projects that have low-barrier intake and termination criteria, this includes having had NJCDC sponsor 15 new Housing First vouchers for the chronically homeless utilizing State Rental Assistance from NJ DCA.
- To end homelessness, PCICH members Catholic Family and Community Services and Community Hope provide SSVF outreach, services, and rental

assistance and manage a by-name-list of identified veterans to connect them with veteran-specific and other community resources.

- To create a systemic response to homelessness, the CoC has funded NJ 2-1-1 to cover the full geographic area with Coordinated Assessment access, and is holding monthly case conferencing meetings among outreach, housing providers and emergency shelter providers to prioritize resources for those who are homeless for the longest time and with the greatest severity of service needs.

Through partnerships with the Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (CIACC), education system partners, homeless liaisons, the behavioral health care system, child protective services and the homeless services system, homeless students and their families are identified, and service plans developed to meet their needs. CIACC offers cross-training on homeless definitions, compliance and requirements, support systems for the homeless and effective community service providers. CIACC has developed a standardized intervention model for use in school settings to effectively determine the service needs of homeless children and connect them to appropriate providers. The homeless liaison serves on the CoC board.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The CoC application to HUD indicated that the most effective way to decrease homelessness is through a single point of entry, assessment, expanded outreach, increased community awareness, coordination of efforts and expansion of housing opportunities and prevention services.

The Ten-Year Plan places a prevention emphasis on discharge planning and access to a safety net of services. The Coalition continues to:

- Work with the State of New Jersey and local public and private entities to establish an effective homelessness prevention program in Passaic County.
- Create a 'minimum standard' discharge policy to be adopted county-wide.
- Create affiliation agreements between various discharging agencies and shelters.
- Improve discharge planning policy for prisons and jails.
- Improve discharge planning for youth aging out of the DYFS system.

Partnerships with the school homeless liaisons will be strengthened through coordinated training sessions with providers. The Mainstream Committee of the CoC has incorporated education and early childcare issues in their monthly meetings. The CoC works with the Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (CIACC) to build partnerships with the healthcare system, child protective services and homeless services system to better identify homeless students and coordinate services.

The County has budgeted \$20,000 in FY21 CDBG funds for the County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program which assists foster youth.

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AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction

The County updated the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing in 2019. Barriers identified were:

- Limited housing choice results in Housing Choice vouchers concentration in older, lower cost communities
- Lack of public transit limits mobility and housing choice
- Based on housing complaints received by HUD, there is continued evidence of discrimination in housing on the basis of race, disability and familial status which limits housing choice
- Non-White households were less likely to be homeowners and are more likely to have been offered a high-cost loan than white households
- Members of protected classes have lower income and higher unemployment rates which limits housing choice
- Many of the municipal zoning ordinances in the Urban County are outdated, lack certain terms, definitions, and/or regulations, are not in alignment with Federal fair housing law.
- Newspaper advertising online did not consistently use fair housing logo in Real Estate section

In the Five-Year CP, obstacles such as a lack of funding, NIMBYism, a lack of affordable housing, limited infrastructure in the community, Highlands development restrictions, and escalating costs to providing housing were cited as obstacles to providing affordable housing.

Actions planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

The County will continue to conduct fair housing education and outreach. The county does not control land use, zoning, building codes or other actions with direct impact on land use. The County will continue to work in an advisory capacity to the local municipalities on land use issues.

The County will continue to promote the County's fair housing webpage as a place to get information on fair housing. A housing conference was planned for April 2020 and April 2022, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it had to be canceled. The conference is planned for 2022.

The Planning Department is collecting the court determinations for affordable housing to incorporate into a new housing element of the County's Master Plan. The county will promote housing options to expand housing choice.

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AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The following information illustrates other actions that Passaic County will take to address its priority needs.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The primary impediment to the County's ability to meet underserved needs is the limited amount of CDBG funding to address identified priorities. The County will continue to seek public and private resources to leverage its entitlement funds in assisting with implementation of policies and programs.

The County Housing Agency provides rent vouchers to offset the high cost of rental housing in the County.

The Passaic County Human Services Department offers several programs to combat homelessness and is the administrator of the CoC in Passaic County. The County has a Homeless Trust Fund which will provide resources to address homelessness.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The County will continue to support its goals of maintaining and expanding affordable housing by supporting activities and programs funded by others by certifying these activities as consistent with the five - year plan.

The Passaic County Weatherization and Home Energy Division provides utility subsidies to low- income individuals residing in Passaic County to permit them to stay in their homes and have adequate heating and electricity. In addition, the Division rehabilitates the homes of low-income individuals to ensure that they are energy efficient. Rehabilitation includes insulation, new windows, new hot water heaters and new boilers.

Additionally, the County will continue to provide resources to help homeless and low-income persons obtain housing. For example, the Passaic County Housing Agency provides rent vouchers to offset the high cost of rental housing in the County.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The County is a participant in the New Jersey Health Department Lead Abatement Initiative. When children are identified with an elevated blood lead level, the County provides oversight to ensure that the lead-based paint problem is addressed. The State

recently announced its plans to reinstate funding for lead-based paint remediation. The County will once again be able to refer owners to this program.

The U.S. EPA guideline for renovation, paint and repair, effective April 22, 2010, requires that all contractors notify owners of properties constructed prior to 1978 of the potential for lead-based paint hazards and to perform work in a lead safe manner. Contractors must be trained and registered with the U.S. EPA to do work in older homes that disturbs painted surfaces. Local building code offices will be made aware of these requirements.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Through implementation of human services programs offered by or through funding provided by Passaic County, the County works to reduce the number of families with incomes below the poverty level. The County, in conjunction with the public and private agencies and institutions, provides lower-income households with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills as well as the motivation to become fully self-sufficient. Economic Development activities are directed toward the creation of new businesses and employment opportunities. The CDBG program provides the potential of generating jobs that may be filled by Section 3 residents or hire Section 3 businesses.

The county Workforce Development Board and ~~Workforce Development~~ One-Stop Center develop training programs and provide job placement services for county residents.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The County Department of Planning and Economic Development is responsible for the administration of the CDBG program. All sub-recipient agreements are monitored on an ongoing basis. The County participates with other groups when appropriate, such as planning for the homeless, to facilitate cooperative problem solving in Passaic County.

Additionally, coordination between the County, non-profit service providers, and private agencies allow for all parties in Passaic County to efficiently leverage the limited economic and human resources available.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

The County will continue efforts to enhance coordination between agencies by creating partnerships in the implementation the Section 3 outreach initiative and the Passaic County Interagency Council on Homelessness. The Section 3 outreach effort will partner with the Passaic County Workforce Development Center and the agencies involved in the Human Services Advisory Board to identify Section 3 individuals and businesses and to

provide feedback on available job opportunities. The Passaic County CEAS/Continuum of Care is comprised of providers of homeless services and prepares the McKinney application for funding from HUD.

In addition to coordination between public and private agencies, improved coordination between Passaic County departments is being pursued to improve housing and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents. Departments include Planning & Economic Development, Passaic County Public Housing Agency, Human Services, Parks & Recreation, Roads Division, and Office of Emergency Management.

DRAFT

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction

This section describes program specific requirements for CDBG funds.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	\$0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan	\$0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	\$0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan.	\$0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	\$0
Total Program Income	\$0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	\$0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100%